

State of California - The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Marine Resources Region
Long Beach, California

CRUISE REPORT 72-KB-22
BIG GAME FISH INVESTIGATIONS

Prepared by James E. Phelan

Vessel: R/V KELP BASS

Dates: September 5-8, 1972

Locality: The nearshore waters of southern California.

- Purpose:
1. To gather data on white seabass, *Cynoscion nobilis* for population estimates.
 2. To tag and release white seabass, Pacific bonito, *Sarda chiliensis* and California barracuda, *Sphyræna argentea* in the nearshore waters of southern California.
 3. To make incidental collections as requested by other investigations.

Procedure: Fishable concentrations of Pacific bonito, *Sarda chiliensis* showed in southern California waters for the first time this year and almost the entire cruise effort was switched to bonito tagging. Trolling with feather and "Hexhead" lures was conducted. Still fishing with live-bait and lures was conducted in areas where trolling indicated denser concentrations of fish. The vessel left Long Beach each morning and returned in the afternoon.

Results: A total of 423 bonito was tagged and released in the Horseshoe Kelp area outside of Los Angeles Harbor. These fish ranged from 32 cm to 66 cm in length. Sea surface temperatures in the area of tagging ranged from 20.3°C (68.5°F) to 21.7°C (71.0°F).

No white seabass or California barracuda were captured.

Two Pacific mackerel, *Scomber japonicus* were tagged for the Pelagic Fish Investigation.

Personnel: Marco Mazarovich, Vessel Captain
James E. Phelan, Biologist-in-charge

The following participated one or more days: (Fish & Game personnel)

Jack Carlisle	Peter Phillips
Doug Chessmore	Sharon Rushing
Rob Collins	Jim Russel
Kevin Farnum	Don Schultze
Cynthia Klepadlo	Roger Wynn
Rolf Mall	Ron Youker
Bill Maxwell	

Other personnel:

Jim Cichantek - U.S.N. Project Transition
Rick Dixon - P.M.F.C.
Marion Palm - N.M.F.S.

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